

## AMENDMENT TO CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT.

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JUNE 27, 1898.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. HITT, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, submitted the following

### REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 10829.]

The Committee on Foreign Affairs, to whom was referred the communication of the honorable Secretary of the Treasury of March 9, 1898, transmitting the draft of a proposed amendment to the act approved November 3, 1893, relative to the exclusion of Chinese, report the accompanying bill and recommend its passage.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, D. C., June 23, 1898.*

SIR: On the 9th of March last there was referred to your committee a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury transmitting draft of a proposed amendment to the Chinese exclusion laws, wherein provision was made for the acceptance of bonds from masters of vessels upon which Chinese seamen, stewards, etc., arrive conditioned for the departure from this country of such Chinese persons.

Inviting your attention to the fact that at present a force of 20 special Chinese inspectors is necessary at the port of New York to insure the departure from this country of Chinese seamen, etc., arriving at that port, at an annual cost to the Government of nearly \$20,000, which expenditure would be unnecessary by the enactment of the proposed amendment, or some other similar law, I have the honor to invite your attention to the subject and to request such action as to you may seem proper in the premises.

Respectfully, yours,

O. L. SPAULDING,  
*Acting Secretary.*

Hon. R. R. HITT,  
*Chairman Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives.*

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, D. C., March 5, 1898.*

SIR: In order to prevent the violation of the Chinese exclusion laws, the collector of customs at the port of New York has been compelled to assign officers to watch vessels upon which Chinese seamen, stewards, etc., arrive, with the view to the prevention of the irregular landing of such persons. This practice involves an expendi-

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ture approximating \$20,000 per annum. The collector suggested to the Department that masters of vessels be required to give bond for the departure from this country, with the vessels, of Chinese persons employed thereon in any capacity, but the Solicitor of the Treasury, to whom the subject was referred, holds that under existing law such bond could not properly be required.

I have the honor to herewith inclose a proposed amendment to the act approved November 3, 1893, relative to the exclusion of Chinese, wherein the acceptance of bonds in such cases as are herein referred to is authorized. The immediate passage of the inclosed or a similar amendment is in my opinion required for the proper enforcement of the election laws, and I therefore commend it to favorable consideration.

Respectfully, yours,

L. J. GAGE,  
*Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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